

AAW | AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

SERVING WOODTURNERS WORLDWIDE SINCE 1986.

April 26, 2018

MEMBER PROFILE:

Ed Pretty

MEMBER #16097



Ed and his wife's other passion is motorcycle touring.

AAW FORUM TURNING OF THE WEEK



[Time Ripple](#)

[Peter Walen](#)

23" x 8"

Ambrosia maple with bug
holes filled with day glow



Sign up for the AAW

Forum, a member-
moderated online

community for sharing work
and ideas, obtaining feedback,
and connecting with other
woodturning enthusiasts. You
can upload photos, interact
with other woodturners, and
maybe even see your work
picked as a "Turning of the
Week."

[Visit the Forum here.](#)

- **Hometown:** Langley, very near Vancouver, British Columbia
- **Chapter Affiliation:** [Greater Vancouver Woodturners Guild](#)
- **Number of Years Turning Experience:** I've been turning for a couple of months short of 60 years, but have been very active for the last 35.

What motivated you to start woodturning?

I joined the AAW because I saw it as a way to connect with other turners and learn as much as possible.

Who or what was your greatest teacher?

My single greatest teachers were my Mom and Dad. I learned the basics of all my skills, including turning, from my Dad. My Mom taught me to think creatively, be resourceful, and to never blame my tools.

What was your funniest or happiest turning moment?

I can't really think of my funniest moment turning, but I can think of many times when a few of us were sharing laughs while working together in my shop or someone else's shop. I think my happiest moment was when I received the letter confirming my acceptance into my first gallery.

What is your favorite wood to turn?

My favourite wood is big leaf maple, particularly figured, because there is plenty of it around and it's quite versatile.



My spindle turning roots still continue.

My favorite tool is a sharp tool.

I see more and more folks who are physically challenged in one way or another taking on the challenge of learning to turn. So perhaps the biggest change in the field might be turning becoming a significant form of rehabilitation and empowerment

[Click here for a direct link to the article.](#)

(Note: The AAW Forum requires a new username and password that are separate from the AAW website.)

Today's article and video picks explore hollow forms.

AAW EXPLORE! STAFF PICKS



According to David Ellsworth, the temptation to venture into larger forms is seductive and parallels the learning curve. He says, "The 'bigger is better' trail certainly has led to some wonderful woodturning innovations, but not without the cost of trial and error, and sometimes the errors weren't pretty." Turners need to consider the folly of being naïve, he explains, "Woodturners must take it upon themselves to learn and consider all safety factors that apply in a given situation." In his article, ["When You Want to Turn Larger Hollow Forms,"](#) from the October 2017 issue of *American Woodturner*, David describes some of the lessons he's learned turning big hollow forms.

[Click here for a direct link to the article.](#)

for people with challenges. I know that for myself, it has always been my go-to thing to do when I need to "escape" - if even just to make shavings.

What would I do instead of woodturning?

My other passion is motorcycle touring. So I guess I'd like to see even more of North America than we have seen already. We might even drop by John and Vicki Jordan's again.

Has being a part of AAW affected your life and work? How?

Being a member of the AAW and a member of a vibrant chapter has given me direct access to more skilled turners than anyone could imagine. My skill level is greater than it would have been otherwise and has allowed me to grow in directions within the craft that I may never have known.



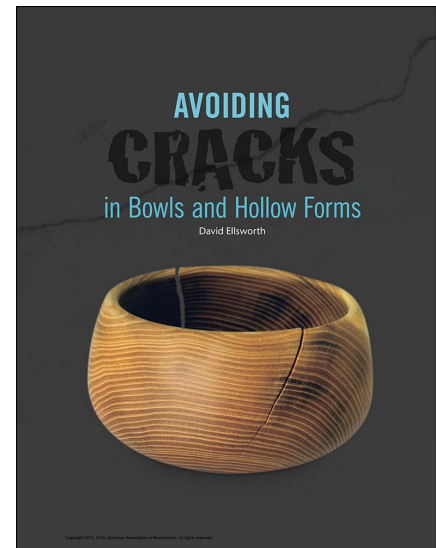
Ed enjoys introducing humor into his turning as with Bee Tea, made of birch burl, maple, and ash.

Favorite piece by another artist?

My best answer to that would be anything made by Dale Nish or Rude Osolnik because it was pictures of pieces by those two in the 70's and 80's that drew me from my spindle turning roots into the world of self-expression.

What is your favorite project or piece?

The easy answer to "my favourite piece" is the one I'm working on right now. However, there are a few of my own selections in our "That's Not Leaving the House" collection, but perhaps *Lau Chuang* just might be my pick. *Lau Chuang* means "Old John" in Tao, an ancient Chinese script. My cousin's husband, John, is a western individual who is considered one of the greatest interpreters of this ancient script, and is an amazing graphic artist and Oriental calligrapher. *Lau Chuang* is my interpretation of his art, passion, and quiet nature.



Wood moves and continues to move... forever. In his article, "[Avoiding Cracks in Bowls and Hollow Forms](#)," from the August 2015 issue of *American Woodturner*, David Ellsworth describes the causes of cracks, how to prevent them, and how to address unexpected "design opportunities." [Click here for a direct link to the article.](#)

VIDEO SOURCE: FLICK OF THE WEEK

In this video, Lyle Jamieson stresses tool control to make clean cuts on the outside shape of end grain hollow form vessels.



[Cleaning Up the Bottom of a Turned Hollow Form with Lyle Jamieson \(TRT 3:34\)](#)

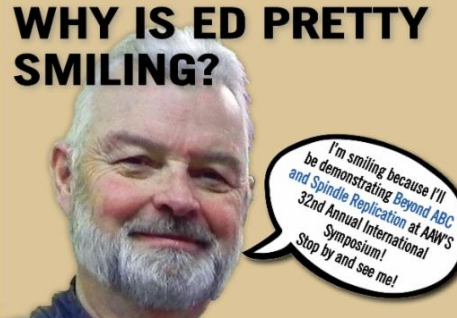
SYMPOSIUM



Lau Chuang was turned in honor of a dear friend.

See Ed Pretty up close and in action at the AAW Symposium in Portland, June 14-17, 2018!

WHY IS ED PRETTY SMILING?



I'm smiling because I'll be demonstrating Beyond ARC and Spindle Replication at AAW's 32nd Annual International Symposium! Stop by and see me!

- For all skill levels
- 100+ demos and panel discussions
- Internationally known demonstrators
- Trade show with 100+ exhibitor booths
- Exhibitions and Instant Gallery
- Auctions of turned art
- Charitable initiatives
- Networking opportunities



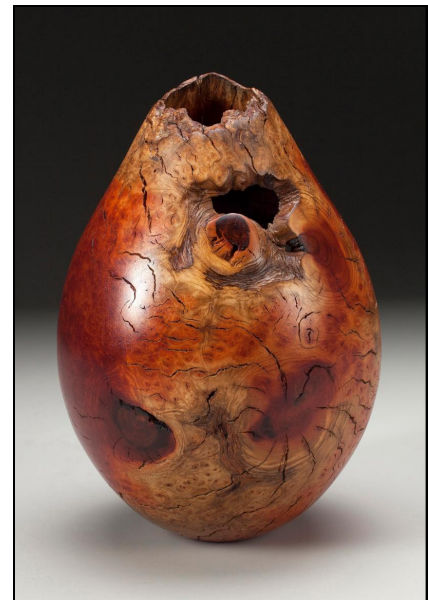
AAW's 32nd Annual International Woodturning Symposium
June 14-17, 2018
Oregon Convention Center
Portland, Oregon

Details and registration at woodturner.org or call 877-595-9094 (toll free)

DEMONSTRATOR TIP

Reveal the Natural Features

"When I begin a piece, the main focus is capturing the natural features from its original form. Taking advantage of each unique portion allows the material to display its natural potential. Having full control over something completely original makes it easy to highlight its elegant beauty. Butchers would agree that the best meat is near the bone, and the same goes with figure and grain patterns in wood. All burl wood and highly figured material has the most interesting grain patterns, character, and beautifully figured designs near the exterior of the tree." ~ Dan Tilden



TILDEN TO DEMONSTRATE

Dan Tilden will be at the [2018 AAW Symposium in Portland!](#)

In his session **Natural-Edge Design**, Dan will discuss the possibilities of incorporating a natural edge in your hollow vessels and bowls. Additionally, in **Maximizing Expensive Wood with Glue Blocks**, he'll show you how to use every possible inch of expensive or rare turning stock. Please join us. [Register today!](#)



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